

United States Border Patrol

Marfa Sector Headquarters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 31, 2002

CPA Simon Garza, Jr. PAO Pablo Caballero (915) 729-5200 (888) 536-6204

BORDER PATROL REUNITES MISSING BABY WITH MOTHER

Sierra Blanca, Texas—Less than 36-hours after being reported missing, U.S. Border Patrol Marfa Sector Agents located a seven month old infant and reunited him with his mother. In a combined effort, members of the Sector's Anti-Smuggling Unit and Special Response Team tracked the child all the way from Sierra Blanca to Dallas, Texas.

Early morning, Tuesday, July 23, agents working at the Sierra Blanca Check-Point apprehended two U.S. Citizens that were smuggling five Mexican Nationals into the country.

During processing, one of the females in the group related the terrifying story that her son was missing. Further details revealed that she had trusted a smuggler in a second vehicle with her child after being told by the smuggler that "it would be easier that way."

Immediately, the agents started searching for the alleged smuggler utilizing all available resources including intelligence databases. Within a few hours they were able to locate the whereabouts of the child near Dallas, Texas.

"We were concerned for the safety of the child," said Chief Patrol Agent Simon Garza, Jr. "As we know that smugglers only care for themselves and will use anything or anyone to their advantage regardless of the consequences. Thanks to the ability of my agents and to the modernization of our equipment and technology this story had a good ending."

The individual who took the baby has been identified and the Sector's Anti-Smuggling Unit has obtained a warrant for her arrest.